



# GTE Operations Incorporated

Progress  
Report #3:  
Test Results and  
Public Meeting

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX • San Francisco, California • May 2000

## Introduction

During the week of April 17, 2000, the first of two rounds of air testing were completed at seven pre-selected homes located near the Town Square, Whisman Park border. These homes are above areas with highest measured concentrations of trichloroethylene (TCE) in soil-vapor and groundwater on the former GTE property. Based on preliminary air test results EPA received the week of May 1, 2000, **EPA believes the air tested in these homes is safe. Additionally, based on our current information, EPA does not believe the indoor air in other homes on the property is impacted.** That is because the other homes are located in areas with either no contamination or less contamination than the areas of the pre-selected homes.

## Interpreting the Test Results

Of eight homes pre-selected for air testing, seven home owners agreed to have their home tested for TCE, dichloroethylene (DCE), and vinyl chloride. In one home, the highest level measured was  $12 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  (microgram per meter cubed) of TCE. It is unclear what the source of this TCE is: whether it is from the property or household items which may contain TCE. Still, this highest level lies within EPA's risk range of 1.1 to

$111 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . Although we believe even this highest level is safe, we will continue to monitor soil-vapor in this area to ensure that levels remain constant or are decreasing.

The air test results from the other pre-selected homes ranged from no TCE detected to  $0.54 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  of TCE. EPA believes that these homes are not being impacted by contaminants beneath the property. Additionally, in 1999, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District measured TCE in outdoor air at concentrations ranging from 0.5 to  $8 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  in Mountain View. Therefore, given our current information, we consider the levels of TCE measured in the homes to be safe and within the range of ambient air (outdoor air) concentrations. DCE and vinyl chloride were not detected in any of the seven homes tested.

Additionally, two homes not located above any contaminated areas were tested as "reference homes." EPA detected DCE at

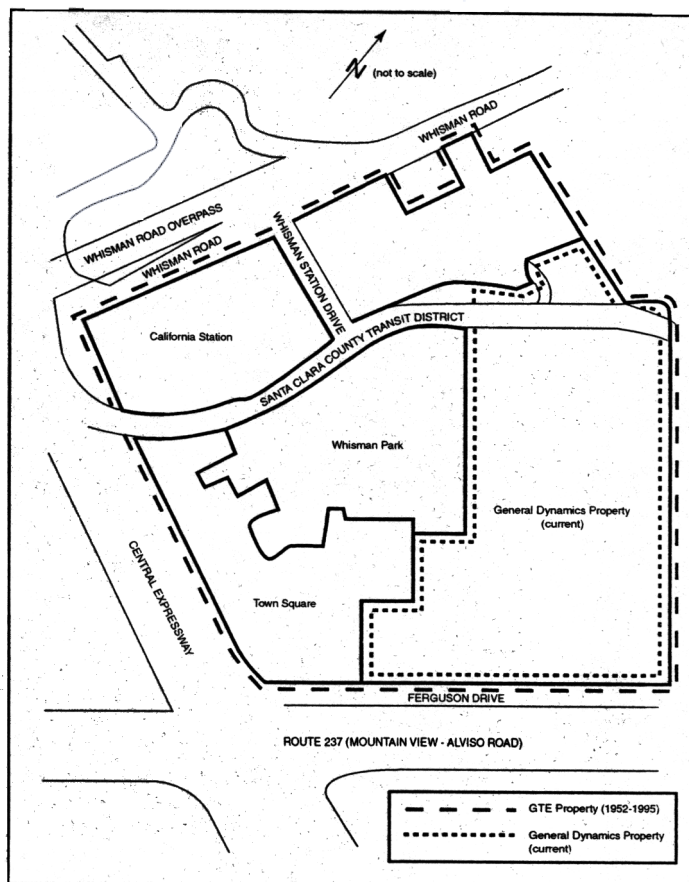


Figure 1: Site Location Map

negligible levels in one of these homes. TCE and vinyl chloride were not detected in either of these homes.

## Next Steps

In September or October 2000, we will re-test the pre-selected homes to account for any seasonal variations that might affect indoor air. We will work with GTE to continue to remediate groundwater and monitor groundwater and soil-vapor levels on the property.

## Public Meeting

See back page for details.

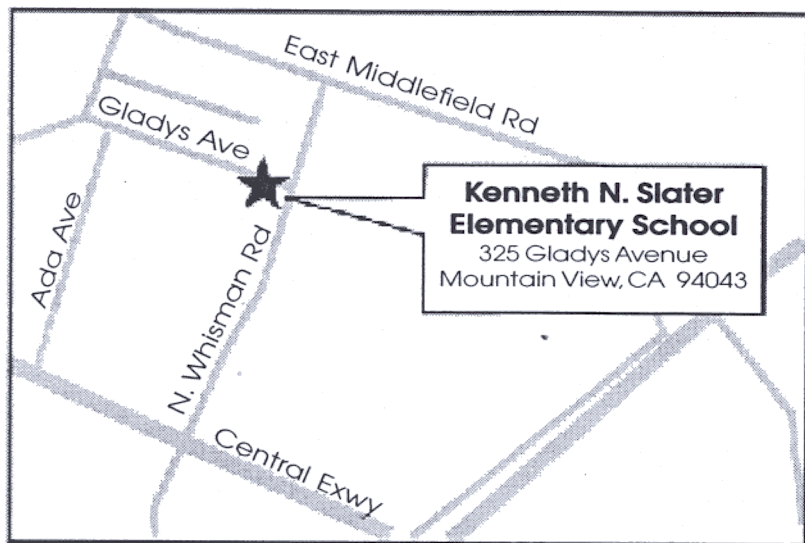
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ATTN: Vicky Semones



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## ◆ EPA PUBLIC MEETING ON GTE OPERATIONS ◆ JUNE 7, 2000 ◆



EPA invites you to a public meeting to discuss air sampling results and to talk with you about our ongoing activities at the GTE site.

**Wednesday, June 7, 2000  
7:00 to 8:30PM**

**at**

**Kenneth N. Slater  
Elementary School  
Multi-Use Room  
325 Gladys Avenue  
Mountain View, CA 94043  
(650) 526-3530**

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Wu, EPA Remedial Project Manager, at (415) 744-2032 or Vicky Semones, Community Involvement Coordinator, at 1-800-231-3075